FAST FORWARD ▶▶ 345

NIPPER, the HMV dog, celebrated his eightieth anniversary in the arms of Ian Dury. Of course, it's not your original mutt, but judges chose five-year-old Toby to represent the original.

Meanwhile, Dury is trying to persuade Durex to let him use their brand name for the title of his forthcoming album "The Dancing Durex".

The album itself contains eight new songs and the running order goes something like this: "Spasticus Artisticus", "Funky Disco Pops", "The Body Song", "Lonely Town", "Trust Is A Must", "Red Letter", "Girls Watching", and "Wait For Me".

Save the Apollo say musicians

THE Apollo Theatre in Glasgow, until recently the largest gig in Scotland, is threatened with closure for the second time in three years.

Paul Greig, managing director of Apollo Leisure UK (which controls the Apollo, along with its namesakes in London, Coventry and Manchester), told MM: "We have applied for planning permission to demolish the Apollo Theatre in Glasgow – we should know at the end of this month whether the application has been successful.

"If it has, the site will be used for an office block. We are also looking for an alternative site in Glasgow on which to build a 5,000 seater theatre for rock concerts."

Ironically, the group have just spent £100,000 on repairs and refurbishments to the theatre, in readiness for a star-studded '81-'82 season including artists from Siouxsie and the Banshees and Saxon to Cliff Richard and Johnny Mathis. But this apparently is a temporary measure, as the building was in such an apalling condition. Elton John, recording in Paris, said: "I have included the Apollo in many of my British tours and always had a fantastic time there. It would be a great shame if this venue were closed down, both for myself and for many other musicians."

Graham Oliver, of Saxon, who play the Apollo on October 18 this year, was equally incensed. "North of the border it's about the most special place to play, with an atmosphere all of its own."

Whitesnake's David Coverdale said: "They can't close it. The Glasgow Apollo is one of the best gigs in the world."

● The Apollo scores a first on October 3, when it hosts Europe's first disco concert.

Jim Waugh, radio Clyde's late night deejay, says it's a concert where they play records, celebrating the memory of four rock heroes – John Lennon, Bob Marley and Jimi Hendrix, as well as one other: possibly Brian Jones or Otis Redding. – ELLY SALE.

COOKING AT THE CASTLE

THE organisers of the Castle Donington Monsters Of Rock festival have laid on "all the facilities that could be thought of" for the 65,000-strong audience, there to experience the delights of AC/DC, Whitesnake, Blue Oyster Cult, Slade, Blackfoot and More on August 22.

On-site food stretches

THIN Lizzy are out on the road again, live and dangerous, for a major tour of Britain in October/November.

Dates open at Newcastle City Hall on October 27, continuing at Edinburgh Playhouse (28), Dundee Caird Hall (29), Aberdeen

Lizzy's live and dangerous autumn

Capitol (30), Glasgow Apollo (31), Preston Guildhall (November 2), Sheffield City Hall (3), Liverpool Empire (4), Gloucester Leisure Centre (5), Southampton Gaumont (7), Cardiff Sophia Gardens (9), Leicester de Montfort Hall (10), Bristol Colston Hall (12), Poole Arts Centre (13), Brighton Centre (14), Manchester Apollo (16 and 17), Leeds Queens Hall (19), Birmingham Odeon (20 and 21), Hammersmith Odeon (25 and 26).

Madness fight fascists

STRUNG OUT ON DEXYS

DEXYS' next single to feature strings and no horns? Also **Tony Visconti** looks set to produce their next album . . . An English **Clash** tour with **Kurtis Blow** supporting looks on the cards, but don't hold your breath. If it does happen it will probably take in venues that are none too

Nolan Sisters to record a song written by **Bob Young and Micky Moody . . . Richard Strange** claims a motorist in Wardour Street made an attempt on his life. "Having narrowly failed to break both my legs, he shouted 'I'll get you' . . . The only saving grace was the 'Save The Whale'

Edinburgh festival line-up